

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 09126 021310Z

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ACTION OES-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8163

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, SP, OTRA

SUBJECT: SPANISH REQUEST FOR NSF TRAVEL SUPPORT OCEANO-
GRAPHERS, 1970 AGREEMENT

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY A REQUEST FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE TRAVEL TO SPAIN OF KENNETH TENORE OF SKIDAWAY INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY AND ARTHUR MILLER AND ELEAZAR UCHUPI BOTH OF WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION FOR CONSULTATION WITH THE SPANISH INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE AND PLANS FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION. SAME LETTER REQUESTS SUPPORT ON BEHALF OF THE SPANISH INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY FOR TRAVEL OF OCEANOGRAPHER JOAQUIN ROS TO U.S. PRIMARILY FOR PROGRAM PLANNING.

2. NSF U.S.-SPAIN PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS TO SKIDAWAY INSTITUTE AND WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION HAVING BEEN EXPENDED, FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTS THAT PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS HELD BY NSF BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE --THE USE OF THESE FUNDS IS BY AGREEMENT BETWEEN NSF AS EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR THE 1970 AGREEMENT SCIENCE PROGRAM AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. NSF PROGRAM MANAGER FOR SPAIN ADVISED EMBOFF BY PHONE THAT NSF WOULD REQUIRE FORMAL PROPOSAL FROM U.S. SCIENTISTS FOR USE OF THESE FUNDS AND THAT NSF PROCESSING OF THESE WOULD REQUIRE SOME TIME. TIME, HOWEVER, IS OF THE ESSENCE IN THIS CASE BECAUSE FOREIGN MINISTRY WANTS JOINT PLANNING FOR OCEANOGRAPHY TO BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BASED IN SIGNIFICANT PART ON BILATERAL CONSULTATION TO BE HELD THIS MONTH.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MADRID 09126 021310Z

4. NSF OFFICER AND EMBOFF AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE AN NSF OCEANOGRAPHY EXPERT PARTICIPATE IN THE REVIEW AND PLANNING AND FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS NO OBJECTION TO THIS. GIVEN THE URGENCY OF THIS SPEICIAL SITUATION AND ITS LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS, EMBASSY WOULD HOPE THAT NSF CAN SHORTEN THE PROCESSING TIME FOR THE REQUESTED TRAVEL AWARDS AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE AN NSF OCEANOGRAPHER ACCOMPANY THE U.S. SCIENTISTS, DRAWING ON THE SAME FUND.

5. TRAVEL PLAN OF JOAQUIN ROS AND COPY OF FOREIGN MINISTRY LETTER ARE BEING MAILED DIRECTLY TO NSF FOR ACTION AND TO DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION.

6. DEPARTMENT (OES) IS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT ABOVE TO NSF AND ASSIST STABLER

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